[Mr. M. N. Parameswaran Pillai]

(*b*) the amount expended annually for repairs, purchase of accessories and for petrol and lubricating oils?

Mr. T. C. Thomman (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) A *statement containing the information is laid on the table.

(*b*) A †statement giving the particulars for the period from 1105 to 1109 is laid on the table. The information required for the period prior to 1105 is not available.

Rural uplift in Travancore.

76. ***Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad** (*Jenmies*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what they are doing in furtherance of rural uplift in Travancore; and

(*b*) whether they have any definite scheme for the purpose, and, if so, what?

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai (*Director of Industries*):

(*a*) and (*b*). 1. The Itinerant Weaving Parties of the Department of Industries have been training several batches of students of the rural areas in weaving. Deserving students of each batch have been given looms and accessories free of cost so as to enable them to carry on weaving industry in their homes.

2. A batch of 6 students on a stipend of Rs. 5 each per mensem is being trained every year in handicrafts such as durrie and carpet weaving, rattan and basket making and embroidery and lacquer works.

3. Grants are being given to private industrial shools to encourage the development of industries in the rural areas. 61 schools have been given such grants.

4. Loans are being granted to industrial concerns engaged in soap-making, weaving, coir weaving, rice hulling, etc. 127 industrial concerns have been granted loans.

5. An annual grant is being given to the Y. M. C. A., Martandam, which is maintaining a demonstration centre.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether Government have ascertained that these loans were actually applied for the purposes for which they were obtained?

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai: Yes, Sir.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether the department has detected any case in which the loans have not been properly utilised?

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* *Vide* Appendix II A—Page 240

† *Vide* Appendix II B—Page 241

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Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai: There may be one or two cases here and there where the money has not been utilised for the purpose on account of various reasons.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know what action has been taken in those cases ?

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai: We have proceeded against them.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: In what way ?

Mr. N. K. Padmanabhan Pillai: To recover the amount.

Wearing of uniform by the Excise staff.

77 ***Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any rule to the effect that the executive staff of the Excise Department should wear uniform when on duty, and, if so, whether that rule applies to the Excise Commissioner also ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan (*Excise Commissioner*): Uniform has been prescribed for all officers of the Excise Department including the Excise Commissioner. There is no rule that the officers should wear uniform at all times when on duty.

Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad: May I know whether they actually wear the uniform ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: It is worn whenever there is any necessity for it.

Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad: May I know whether the Excise Commissioner has ever worn it ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: Yes.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know from the member whether at the time of patrol work these officers are expected to wear uniform ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: No. They carry their belt in order that they may be identified if necessity arises.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Am I to understand that for the same reason even the police officers should not wear uniform ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: Sir, it is the Police Commissioner that should answer this question.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Suppose a man assaults an excise officer who goes out on duty for detection work –

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Mavelikara and Kartikapally* cum *Kunnathur*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. The question is hypothetical.

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